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Franco-British Council BRITISH SECTION

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Sir Philip de Zulueta
Chairman

Please reply to: 6 John Street,
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18th October, 1982.

The Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,
10, Downing Street,
LONDON, S.W.1.

R23

Prime Minister

Dear Prime Minister

I have replied.

Ad 23/10

You may perhaps be interested to know that we had a joint meeting of the Franco-British Council in Paris last Friday, October 15, at which about a dozen of the members from each side discussed plans up to the proposed next Plenary meeting planned to be held in France probably in the autumn of 1984. I think that we reached broad agreement on a number of useful subjects on which we hope to have discussions in a limited circle in the course of 1983. We already have a discussion planned for November of this year covering Cable, Satellite and other Broadcasting problems between the two countries which I think will be interesting and useful.

However, the main point of this letter is to report that Monsieur Mauroy was extremely kind and gave us a reception at the Matignon at which he came himself for about an hour and a half. He told me that he had done this in order to emphasise his real interest in increasing Franco-British cooperation and also, I think, perhaps as a token of his pleasure at the meeting in Edinburgh. As you perhaps know he was very much impressed by you personally and, if I might use a vulgar expression, has taken a bit of a shine to you! This is, of course, very sensible of him and I hope that it may perhaps have some political value. I felt that it was particularly good of Mauroy to take all this trouble after the irritation apparently caused in France by Geoffrey Howe's reference to French policies at the Party Conference.

Yours sincerely
Philip de Zulueta



FRANCE

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

27 October 1982

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 18 October, which reached us here on 23 October. Mrs. Thatcher is glad that the Franco/British Council has devised a useful discussion programme for 1983 and has noted with interest M. Mauroy's contribution to the success of the last meeting.

A. J. COLES

Sir Philip de Zulueta